IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTORS : Paola Lavermicocca et al.

APPLICATION NO. : 10/581,516

FILED : December 13, 2006

FOR : TABLE OLIVES CONTAINING PROBIOTIC

MICROORGANISMS

EXAMINER : Macauley, Sheridan R.

GROUP : 1651

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office via the Office electronic filing system on **December 9**, **2009**.

Signature: <u>/Helen Tam/</u> Helen Tam

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in reply to the final Office Action dated June 10, 2009. Applicants authorize the Patent and Trademark Office to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 11-0600. Applicants respectfully request entry of the present Amendment in the above-identified case.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

Amendments to the claims begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.